

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-24 are pending. No claims have been canceled. No claims have been added. Claims 4, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, and 21 have been amended.

Claims 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants have amended paragraph [0034] in the Specification to remove the allegedly non-statutory subject matter. It is respectfully submitted that the machine-accessible medium as claimed is directed to statutory subject matter and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 5, 8-10, 13-16 and 18-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 4, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, and 21 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 have been allowed.

Claims 2-5 and 13-16 as amended depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 12, respectively. Thus, having additional limitations, claims 2-5 and 13-16 are also allowable. Allowance of claims 2-5 and 13-16 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 7 sets forth:

defining a first plurality of pointers, one pointer for each of a plurality of ports of the multi-port device; and

storing the first plurality of pointers in one or more capability structures of the multi-port device.

(Claim 7).

As stated in the Office Action, the limitations above are not disclosed in the art of record (Office Action, p. 4). It is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is allowable. Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Claim 18 as amended sets forth a multi-port device comprising:

a plurality of ports; and

a storage device to store a plurality of capability structures, wherein the plurality of capability structures store a first plurality of pointers, one pointer for each of the plurality of ports.

(Claim 18).

As stated in the Office Action, the limitations above are not disclosed in the art of record (Office Action, p. 4). Thus, claim 18 as amended is allowable. Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Claims 6-12 and 19-24 as amended depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 7 and 18, respectively. Thus, having additional limitations, claims 6-12 and 19-24 are also allowable. Allowance of claims 6-12 and 19-24 is earnestly solicited.

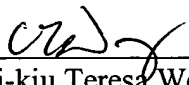
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the remarks, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the pending claims be allowed.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3), Applicants hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 5/23, 2006



Chui-kiu Teresa Wong
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 48,042

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300